

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 FAA-00 CAB-02
DOTE-00 PRS-01 PA-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
DODE-00 L-03 /041 W
-----041605Z 023424 /46

R 031420Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9554
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

MONROVIA FOR FAA NEWELL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BC, SF, US

SUBJECT: US-REGISTERED AIRCRAFT CRASHES IN BOTSWANA

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: BOTSWANA CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT HAS INFORMED EMBASSY OF FEBRUARY 27 CRASH OF AMERICAN-REGISTERED PIPER ARCHER N1165H IN KALAHARI DESERT. PILOT PAUL CRANDALL, WHO WAS FERRYING AIRCRAFT FROM FT. LAUDERDALE, FLA. TO SOUTH AFRICA FOR PIPER CORPORATION, WAS FOUND ON FEBRUARY 28 AND BROUGHT TO GABORONE MARCH 1 BY SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE HELICOPTER. CRANDALL WAS TREATED FOR MINOR INJURIES AND SHOCK AND RELEASED LATER MARCH 1. HE IS NOW IN JOHANNESBURG.

2. ACCORDING TO CIVIL AVIATION OFFICIALS, CRANDALL ADMITTED THAT HE WAS FLYING TOO LOW. OFFICIALS WERE CONVINCED THIS WAS CASE BECAUSE THEY SAY CRANDALL HIT GIRAFFE WHICH HE HAD
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BEEN FILMING. GIRAFFE DECEASED. EMBASSY DOES NOT KNOW WHAT WILL BE DONE WITH DAMAGED PLANE.

3. NOTE: THIS CONTRASTS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN NEWSPAPER STORY IN WHICH CRANDALL STATES THE ENGINE QUIT AT HEIGHT OF 4500 METERS. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, CRANDALL, A PROFESSIONAL AIRCRAFT FERRY PILOT, HAD MADE 39 PERVIOUS DELIVERY TRIPS TO SOUTH AFRICA

AND HAD NEVER HAD ACCIDNET IN 6000 HOURS OF FLYING TIME.

4. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: PIPER OFFICIALS IN SOUTH AFRICA BECAME WORRIED WHEN PLANE WAS OVERDUE AND CONTACTED SAG WHICH IN TURN NOTIFIED GOB. BOTSWANA OWNS NO AIRCRAFT AND HAS VERY LIMITED AIRSEARCH CAPABILITIES WITH CHARTERED PLANS. THEREFORE, ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS, GOB MADE POLITICALLY SENSITIVE DECISION TO ALLOW SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE PLANES AND HELICOPTER TO CONDUCT SEARCH OUT OF GABORONE. EMBASSY HAS ACKNOWLEDGED DIFFICULTY OF THIS DECISON FOR GOB, AND HAS THANKED OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT FOR ITS CONCERN ABOUT AMERICAN CITIZEN.
NORLAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GABORO00528
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770075-0561
Format: TEL
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770398/aaaadifl.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 67afd7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3222359
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-REGISTERED AIRCRAFT CRASHES IN BOTSWANA
TAGS: EAIR, BC, SF, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
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